

BITE - Bites, Animal and Human

BITE-AP ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY

OUTCOME: The patient/family will understand anatomy and physiology as it relates to animal and/or human bites.

STANDARDS:

1. Explain the normal anatomy and physiology of the affected body part(s).
2. Discuss the changes to anatomy and physiology as a result of bite injury as applicable.
3. Discuss the impact of these changes on the patient's health or well-being and/or mobility.

BITE-C COMPLICATIONS

OUTCOME: The patient/family will understand the complications of animal and/or human bite.

STANDARDS:

1. Discuss common complications associated with this bite.
 - a. Rabies
 - i. Highest risk: bat, skunk, raccoon, fox, coyote, wild or unvaccinated dog, other large wild animal
 - ii. Moderate risk: household animals, cats, dogs, ferrets
 - iii. Low to no risk: mice, rats, moles, gophers, chipmunks, prairie dogs, rabbits, gerbils, hamsters, guinea pigs, horses, vaccinated animals
 - b. Osteomyelitis
 - c. Mutilation
 - d. Loss of function
 - e. Other infections: (humans, cats - highest risk)
 - f. Anxiety or mood disorders
 - g. Death
2. Explain that tetanus may be complication of the bite if immunizations are not current.

BITE-DP DISEASE PROCESS

OUTCOME: The patient/family will understand a basic understanding of the bite.

STANDARDS:

1. Discuss that bites can cause ripping and tearing of tissues, dislocation of joints, nerve damage, and breaking of bones.
2. Explain that bites can cause inoculation of bacteria, viruses, and debris into the wound site.

BITE-FU FOLLOW-UP

OUTCOME: The patient/family will understand the importance of follow-up in the treatment of bites.

STANDARDS:

1. Discuss the importance of follow-up care.
2. Discuss the procedure and process for obtaining follow-up appointments and that follow-up appointments be kept.
3. Emphasize that full participation of the treatment plan is the responsibility of the patient/family.
4. Discuss signs/symptoms that should prompt immediate follow-up, e.g., purulent drainage, increasing redness, red streaks.
5. Discuss the availability of community resources and support services and refer as appropriate.

BITE-HY HYGIENE

OUTCOME: The patient/family will understand personal routine hygiene as it relates to animal/human bite.

STANDARDS:

1. Discuss the importance of hand-washing for infection control and universal precautions and wear personal protective equipment.
2. Control the bleeding by applying pressure, clean the wound (soap and water) and cover the wound with a dressing.

BITE-L LITERATURE

OUTCOME: The patient/family will receive literature about animal bites.

STANDARDS:

1. Provide patient/family with literature on animal and human bites.
2. Discuss the content of the literature.

BITE-M MEDICATIONS

OUTCOME: The patient/family will understand the purpose, proper use, and expected outcomes of prescribed drug therapy.

STANDARDS:

1. Describe the name, strength, purpose, dosing directions, and storage of the medication.
2. Discuss the risks, benefits, and common or important side effects of the medication and follow up as appropriate.
3. Discuss any significant drug/drug, drug/food, and alcohol interactions, as appropriate.
4. Discuss the importance of full participation with the medication plan and that this is the patient's responsibility. Discuss any barriers to full participation.
5. Discuss the potential need for rabies vaccine, immune globulin, and tetanus vaccine. Timely administration of these vaccines can be life saving.

BITE-P PREVENTION

OUTCOME: The patient/family will understand ways to prevent bites.

STANDARDS:

1. Discuss the importance of supervising children around animals as well as avoiding and not feeding wild or stray animals.
2. Explain that animals need to be handled gently and never teased.
3. Discuss animal behaviors suggestive of rabies, e.g., aggression, foaming of mouth, nocturnal animals encountered during the day, loss of fear of humans.
4. Explain that aggressive, domesticated animals should be eliminated from the home.

BITE-TX TREATMENT

OUTCOME: The patient/family will understand the treatment plan.

STANDARDS:

1. Explain the treatment plan. Emphasize the importance of active participation by the patient/family in preventing infection: cleansing, antibiotic therapy, pain control, expected course of healing.
2. Discuss therapies that may be utilized.
3. Explain that various treatments have their own inherent risks, side effects, and expected benefits. Explain the risk/benefit of treatment and non-treatment.

4. Discuss the importance of maintaining a positive mental attitude. Explain that counseling by a mental health professional should be sought if symptoms of anxiety or depression arises, .e.g., phobias, PTSD.